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Investigation of sickness reported at Linares.

MAY 13, 1904.

I visited Linares yesterday, accompanied by Doctor Ferguson, for the purpose of investigating an illness from which a number of persons had suffered within the past few days. Upon reaching our destination, which was 2 miles from the town, we learned that all of the sick except two had recovered. These two were carefully examined, and their malady was found to be intermittent malarial fever. The sick who had recovered suffered from the same trouble. From Linares we returned to Monterey, reaching here after midnight.

VILLADAMA, May 15, 1904.

Villadama is a town of about 7,000 population. The sanitary condition is bad, though it is claimed that some sanitary work has been attempted, and some effort made toward the prevention of mosquito propagation. I could learn of no sickness that could be suspected of being yellow fever.

Within a few miles of the town lives an American physician who is employed at the mines. He has considerable practice in the town, and treated yellow fever here last season. He reports that there has been no cases this year. Bustamente is a village of about 5,000 population, located 8 kilometers north of this, and the physician referred to practices in this place also. He reports the same sanitary conditions prevailing as in Villadama, and no suspicious sickness. He has promised to keep me advised as to the health conditions in both places. From here I go to Lampazos to-morrow.

LAMPAZOS, May 16, 1904.

I inspected Lampazos to-day. The town has a population of about 10,000, all Mexican. It has recently been visited by a representative of the Board of Health at Mexico City, who did some disinfection of houses in which cases of yellow fever occurred last season. Some attention was given to the destruction of mosquitoes, and directions were given as to the prevention of their propagation. I could learn of no disease that could be suspected of being yellow fever. There are no towns which require investigation between here and the border. I will therefore leave for San Antonio.

Inspection of Dilley and Pearsall, Tex.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Cock reports, through Passed Assistant Surgeon Richardson, as follows:

DILLEY, TEX., May 13, 1904.

We have finished our work at this point, having fumigated 22 houses, containing 58 rooms. Twelve underground cisterns, besides all containers, have been oiled. We were obliged to purchase 100 pounds of sulphur to complete the work.

The case I mentioned in my last letter as being under observation, proved to be malaria.

We move from here to Pearsall to-day.

PEARSALL, TEX., *May 19, 1904.*

Our work here has been encouraging and satisfactory, and the people, Mexicans and Americans, promise to keep the work up steadily. The two physicians, Doctors Orr and Redditt, have personally aided me in the work. They promise to organize a Ladies' Civic Improvement club in this town, which has an estimated population of 2,500 and of about equal Mexican and American element. The *Stegomyia* and *Culex* exist in abundance. I have been unable so far to find any *Anopheles*, although malaria exists here.

We have given, to date, about 125 demonstrations. We will finish here on May 21, and move to Devine on that day.

There is some doubt as to infection here last season, although both doctors report suspicious cases and state that there was great mortality among the Mexicans, who employed no physicians.

PEARSALL, TEX., *May 21, 1904.*

We have completed the work at this point, having fumigated 128 houses, containing 296 rooms; barrels oiled, 92; wells oiled, 56; elevated tanks oiled, 53. In a great many of the houses we used only such material as was necessary to demonstrate, while in some we used a good quantity of sulphur.

I am to-day addressing a letter to the commissioners' court of Frio County, advising the employment of a regular inspector to keep up the work, under the direction of the county physician.

We will move to Devine to-morrow.

Inspection of Cannel, Tex.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Sauvignet reports, through Passed Assistant Surgeon Richardson, as follows:

LAREDO, TEX., *May 14, 1904.*

I proceeded to Cannel, Tex., on May 13, for the purpose of vaccinating and reporting to you upon the hygienic conditions at that point.

I vaccinated 160 children in the camp and left 50 virus points with the physician who resides there for the vaccination of the small neighboring settlements.

Regarding the sanitary conditions, the camp is on a hill, affording good drainage, leaving the ground dry very shortly after rain. The arroyos have been cleaned out and drained of all standing water. As usual in these places, barrels are used for the water supply. Examination disclosed no larvæ in these. The camp is free from mosquitoes. Doctor Adams, the local physician, has good hygienic ideas and is putting the place in good condition.

Inspection of Ojuelos, Hebbronville, and Realitos, Tex.

Acting Assistant Surgeon McGregor reports, through Passed Assistant Surgeon Richardson, as follows:

OJUELOS, TEX., *May 14, 1904.*

I reached here yesterday morning, having left Aguilares early.

We have inspected 40 houses here and find wrigglers and mosquitoes in abundance. Few barrels are used, but we oiled all used, instructing the people to continue oiling at stated intervals. We have demon-